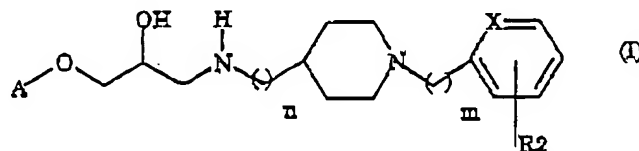


In the Claims

Please amend claims 12, and 14-26 as follows:

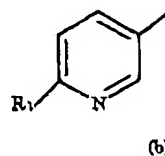
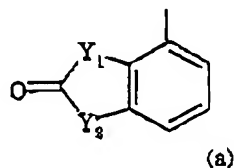
1. (previously amended) A compound of formula (I):



where

X is N or CH;

A represents a group of formula (a) or (b)



R₁ represents a hydrogen atom or an -NH₂, -NR₃R₄, -NR₃CO(C₁-C₄)Alk or -NR₃SO₂(C₁-C₄)Alk group;

R₂ represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or a (C₁-C₄)Alk, (C₁-C₄)alkoxy, -COOH, -COO (C₁-C₄)Alk, -CN, -CONR₃R₄, -NO₂, -SO₂NR₃R₄ or -NHSO₂(C₁-C₄)Alk group;

m and n each represent 0, 1 or 2;

R₃ and R₄ each represent a hydrogen atom or a (C₁-C₄)Alk group;

Y₁ and Y₂ each represent NH or O;

or a salt or solvate thereof.

2. (previously amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1, where X represents CH.

3. (previously amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1, where X represents a nitrogen atom and the R₂ group is in the 5-position.

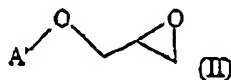
4. (previously amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1, where the (C₁-C₄)Alk group is a methyl or ethyl group.

5. (previously amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1, where R₂ is chosen from -COOH, -COO(C₁-C₄)Alk, -CN, -NO₂, -CONR₃R₄ and -NHSO₂-(C₁-C₄)Alk.

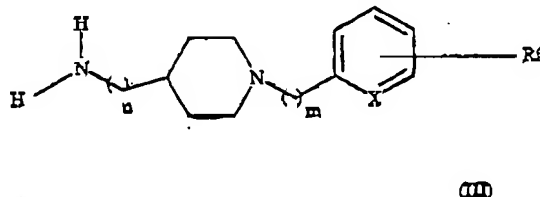
6. (previously amended) 3-[1-(5-Ethoxycarbonylpyrid-2-yl)-4-piperidinylamino]-1-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxobenzimidazol-4-yloxy)-2-propanol or a salt or solvate thereof.

7. (previously amended) 3-[1-(5-Ethoxycarbonylpyrid-2-yl)-4-piperidinylamino]-1-[2-aminopyrid-5-yloxy]-2-propanol or a salt or solvate thereof.

8. (previously amended) A process for the preparation of the compound of claim 1 wherein an epoxide of formula (II):

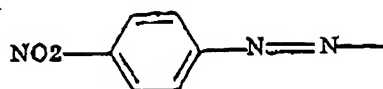


in which A' represents the group (a) or the group (b) in which R₁ is optionally protected, where (a), (b) and R₁ are as defined in claim 1, is reacted with an amine of formula (III)

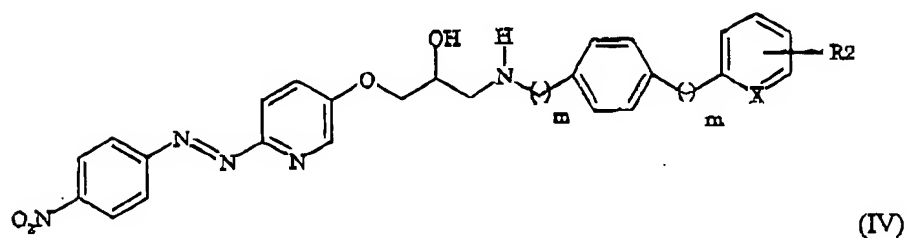


where m, n, R₂ and X are as indicated above, the protective group optionally present is removed and, optionally, the product of formula (I) thus obtained is converted into one of its salts or solvates.

9. (previously amended) A process for the preparation of the compound of claim 1 where A represents a group (b) and R₁ is an NH₂ group, wherein a product of formula (II) as defined in claim 8 where A' is the group (b) and R₁ is a group of formula:

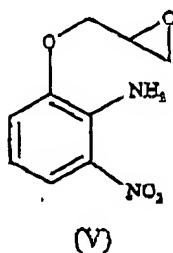


is reacted with an amine of formula III and the product of formula IV thus obtained:

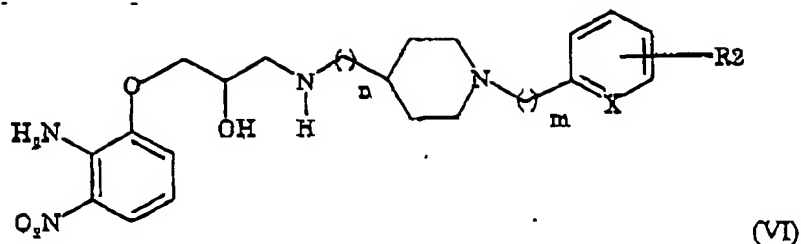


is subjected to a hydrogenation reaction in order to convert the 4-nitrophenyldiazenyl group to an amino group and, optionally, the product of formula (I) thus obtained is converted into one of its salts or solvates.

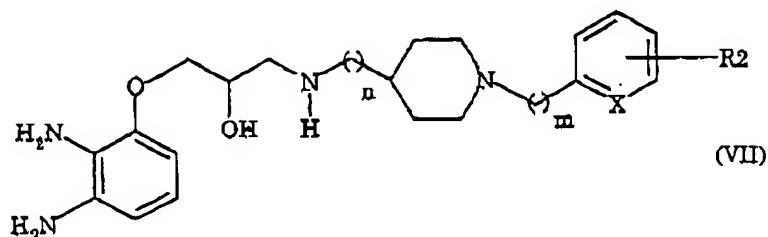
10. (previously amended) A process for the preparation of the compound of claim 1 where A represents the group (a) and Y₁ and Y₂ represent a nitrogen atom, wherein a compound of formula (V):



is reacted with a compound of formula (III) as defined in claim 8, the nitro group of the product of formula (VI) thus obtained:



is reduced, the product of formula (VII) thus obtained:



is treated with a carbonylation agent, the product of formula (I) thus obtained is isolated and, optionally, is converted into one of its salts or solvates.

11. (previously amended) A process as claimed in claim 10 wherein the carbonylation agent is chosen from carbonyldiimidazole and phosgene.

12. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of at least one compound of claim 1 as active principle.

13. (cancelled) Use of the compound as claimed in claim 1 for the preparation of medicaments indicated in irritable bowel syndrome, or with a modulating effect on intestinal motility, lipolytic agent, antiobesity agent, antidiabetic, psychotropic, antiglaucoma agent, cicatrizant or antidepressant, or as tocolytics for preventing or delaying premature labor or for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of dysmenorrhea.

14. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 2.

15. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 3.

16. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 4.

17. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 5.

18. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 6.

19. (currently amended)) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 7.

20. (currently amended) A method for treating irritable bowel syndrome, for modulating intestinal motility, for treating obesity, for treating diabetes, for treating psychosis, for treating glaucoma, for treating depression, for preventing or delaying premature labor, or for the treatment or prophylaxis of dysmenorrhea ~~pathologies that are improved by β_2 -agonist activity~~ which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

21. (currently amended) A method for treating irritable bowel syndrome, for modulating intestinal motility, for treating obesity, for treating diabetes, for treating psychosis, for treating glaucoma, for treating depression, for preventing or delaying premature labor, or for the treatment or prophylaxis of dysmenorrhea ~~pathologies that are improved by β_2 -agonist activity~~ which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 2.

22. (currently amended) A method for treating irritable bowel syndrome, for modulating intestinal motility, for treating obesity, for treating diabetes, for treating psychosis, for treating

glaucoma, for treating depression, for preventing or delaying premature labor, or for the treatment or prophylaxis of dysmenorrhea ~~pathologies that are improved by β_2 -agonist activity~~ which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 3.

23. (currently amended) A method for treating irritable bowel syndrome, for modulating intestinal motility, for treating obesity, for treating diabetes, for treating psychosis, for treating glaucoma, for treating depression, for preventing or delaying premature labor, or for the treatment or prophylaxis of dysmenorrhea ~~pathologies that are improved by β_2 -agonist activity~~ which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 4.

24. (currently amended) A method for treating irritable bowel syndrome, for modulating intestinal motility, for treating obesity, for treating diabetes, for treating psychosis, for treating glaucoma, for treating depression, for preventing or delaying premature labor, or for the treatment or prophylaxis of dysmenorrhea ~~pathologies that are improved by β_2 -agonist activity~~ which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 5.

25. (currently amended) A method for treating irritable bowel syndrome, for modulating intestinal motility, for treating obesity, for treating diabetes, for treating psychosis, for treating glaucoma, for treating depression, for preventing or delaying premature labor, or for the treatment or prophylaxis of dysmenorrhea ~~pathologies that are improved by β_2 -agonist activity~~ which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 6.

26. (currently amended) A method for treating irritable bowel syndrome, for modulating intestinal motility, for treating obesity, for treating diabetes, for treating psychosis, for treating glaucoma, for treating depression, for preventing or delaying premature labor, or for the treatment or prophylaxis of dysmenorrhea ~~pathologies that are improved by β_2 -agonist activity~~ which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 7.